

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

John Starr, et al.

Application No.: 10/045,503

Filed: November 7, 2001

For: Method For Selecting An Optimal
Balance Between Direct Cost And A
Number Of Suppliers



Examiner: Wu, Rutalo

Art Unit: 3639

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

In response to the Final Office Action mailed April 7, 2006, Applicant respectfully requests that the above-identified application be amended as follows.

FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

July 7, 2006

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Signature

July 7, 2006

Date